

## ORDERS MEACHAM CASE DISMISSED

County Attorney Orders Riot Cases Stricken From Docket

### FREELING ADVISED IT

Meacham Has Been Suffering From a Badly Broken Leg

Acting on the advice of Attorney-General S. P. Freeling, County Attorney W. F. Seavers Tuesday ordered the case of the State of Oklahoma vs. Roy Meacham dismissed. The order was entered in the court of District Judge Albert C. Hunt shortly afterward.

This case against Meacham arose from the riot at the night of May 12. Included with Meacham were Chief of Police John A. Gustafson and Ray Word, who was head of the police auto recovery department. Charges were filed by the attorney-general against all three for alleged conspiracy to collect rewards from automobile owners whose cars had been stolen; against Gustafson for failure to perform his duties on the night of the riot and for alleged protection offered to houses of prostitution; against Meacham for failure to protect life and property during the riot.

Indicted by Grand Jury. Gustafson and Meacham were indicted by a grand jury. When Gustafson's trial was held he was found guilty on part of the counts. He immediately appealed his case to the supreme court where a decision is now pending. Meacham's case has never come to trial. Both of them have been suspended. Gustafson awaiting the supreme court's decision and Meacham awaiting trial here.

A few days ago Meacham became impatient at the delay in holding his trial. Anxious to settle his fate, he wrote the following letter to Attorney-General Freeling: "I am writing you a personal letter about my case. You no doubt recall the Gustafson trial, on the indictment of the former chief, Ray Word and myself. I have never felt that I was rightfully indicted, as I have always tried to do what was

right, and have never pulled a 'crooked' stunt. As to the Brady case, Mr. Ward was the head of the department in which I was working, and that was handled according to his orders, and I believe he was doing his best to get the inside information on a gang of thieves, but please remember I was under his orders.

Injured in Auto Accident. "Three months ago I had the bad luck to be in an accident that turned me out with a badly broken leg, and now I can just hobble around with a cane or crutches. I have not been able to work at anything, and surely want to get my case tried soon or get it dismissed, as I don't like to apply for work with that hanging over me. I want to go back to work on the department here or go somewhere else and go to work at something I can do.

"Mr. Freeling, please see what you can do for me. I surely will appreciate it and assure you that you will never have any cause to regret it." Freeling wrote back that Meacham should talk with County Attorney Seavers, stating in his communication that he was not adverse to dismissing the case. He gave the same information to the county attorney in a telephone conversation. The result was the dismissal recorded Tuesday.

Ward resigned from the police department about two weeks before a grand jury was called—before it was announced that one would be empaneled, and went from Tulsa to Mexico.

Allowed Full Salary. That Meacham will be allowed his full salary from the time of his suspension was the statement Tuesday of Mayor T. D. Evans. City Attorney Frank E. Duncan said that under the law the suspended officer is legally entitled to recover his salary. The same law, according to Duncan, will prevail in the case of Chief Gustafson, who is daily expecting a favorable decision from the supreme court.

"I was pleased to learn that this case had been dismissed," Mayor Evans said when he heard of the incident. "Apparently there was no very great crime committed or there would have been a more sincere effort by the attorney-general to try Meacham, who, I believe, was entirely innocent of any wrongdoing, just as I believe Chief Gustafson was."

Boy Injured in Wreck. By Associated Press State Wire. OKMULGEE, Dec. 27.—Vernon Harmon, 12 years old, is in the hospital at a critical condition, suffering from a broken arm and internal injuries sustained today in a collision between an automobile driven by his father and a motor truck.

## ANOTHER PARLEY ALMOST CERTAIN, ENVOYS DECLARE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Plans for a future conference were not agreed to before the Washington negotiations ended.

In official quarters the conversations relating to the project were described today as "utterly informal at the present time," although they might take the form of a definite proposal in the very near future.

No Details Arranged. When and where a meeting of that scope would be held is still an undecided detail. President Harding is understood that it should be held here, but he was said to be willing to leave that entirely to the arms delegates.

The president's desire to have the submarine question threshed out at a future meeting was said to be contingent upon a failure of the present conference to reach a satisfactory solution. The fact that the project was approaching definite form, however, was taken as an additional evidence of the feeling among delegates that the present negotiations on auxiliary craft have reached a serious obstacle.

Italian delegation spokesmen said today that Italy would leave the conference very much disappointed unless an agreement for limitation of auxiliary craft were reached.

Rupture Still Feared. Should the attitude of France and Japan cause a postponement of a decision by the conference in the matter of submarine construction, Italy, it is said, would be obliged regretfully to accede to that action and would be left free, as would other powers, to build as she saw fit.

Any initiative in the matter of economic conferences must come from Europe, it was indicated today by American officials. The American view is that European nations have the primary responsibility for their own reconstruction and that the United States cannot adversely propose remedies or institute international negotiations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—France's demand for 50,000 tons of cruiser submarines—equality with the United States and Great Britain—will not be commented to by the other powers attending the Washington conference. This was the first reaction in conference quarters this afternoon following advice from

Paris that the French government has rejected the American compromise program and instructed its delegation here to press for the 50,000-ton fleet. The instructions had not been received by the delegation here early this afternoon, but it was stated that the Paris address were "not surprising."

If the French insist upon 50,000 tons of ships, it will result in the complete failure of the present conference to find the ratio of auxiliary craft, for both Great Britain and Italy are bitterly opposed to such a ratio for France, and the United States does not view it with approval.

In official circles the belief prevails that France will press her demand for equality, knowing it will not be met.

The next conference would in reality be a "world" conference, instead of a five-powered conference, according to the plans as discussed informally here.

Germany would be represented, possibly Russia, and certainly the smaller nations of central and southern Europe which maintain great standing armies, and are a continual menace to the peace of Europe.

## RAILWAY MATTER IS UP IN THE AIR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Locally that the property owners do not want an extension of the Tulsa Street Railway company in front of their homes, and that "they wouldn't use it if it did extend." He suggested that the city commission was the corporation commission for a hearing on the South Quincy extension, and acting on this request the city attorney talked with Corporation Commissioner Russell.

The corporation commission a few days ago served notice that it will order the Oklahoma Union to remove its track on St. Louis and force the Tulsa Street Railway company to make the extension.

Tied Up By Injunction. Attorney Rose also declared that if his company should attempt to extend south of Fifteenth street it would immediately be in contempt of court—corporation commission or no corporation commission—because two injunctions have already been issued in the local district courts preventing it from extending its track on St. Louis and force the Tulsa Street Railway company's franchise, it cannot operate on a street which is not now occupied by its lines, so it is useless to talk about going over to St. Louis," he stated.

The property owners are uncertain as to just where they stand. Al-

though two injunctions have been issued, the corporation commission's order the Tulsa Street Railway company to extend in spite of them, according to the terms of Russell's letter.

Attorney Russell, representing the Oklahoma Union, had little to say. The corporation commission had heard its case thoroughly, he explained, and has announced it will be allowed to remove its St. Louis line. It is the opinion of Russell as well as of the mayor and some of the commissioners that the corporation commission's power in this situation is greater than that of the city commission, and that if it orders the removal of this line, it can and will be removed.

Duncan Against Change. City Attorney Duncan's contention was that no change should be made in existing transportation conditions in the southeast side until it has been settled how the people there will be served if the Oklahoma Union does remove its line.

"It would be the same thing as far as I am concerned if the situation were reversed and the Tulsa Street Railway company were operating the St. Louis line," he explained, "because there is nothing personal in my fight. But if the corporation commission has the power to order the removal of this line it has the power to remove any line in the city. The constitution limits the power of the commission, and I believe the city can, if necessary, prevent the removal of the St. Louis line, either by injunction or otherwise, and that the case can be taken to the supreme court where if I am not mistaken the corporation commission's order will be knocked out."

Duncan pointed out that Chairman Russell stated during the hearing that he had no arbitrary order would be issued by the corporation commission until time had been given in which to settle the transportation controversy.

"I was taken off my feet when I was informed by the commission that it had decided to grant the Oklahoma Union's request and leave those people out there without transportation," he stated.

No order is to be issued by the corporation commission until after the hearing at Oklahoma City Saturday, Russell informed Duncan during the telephone conversation Tuesday.

Pending the outcome of the hearing the Western Construction company, which holds the contract for paving St. Louis avenue, has been instructed by the city engineer to stop operations. If the corporation commission reiterates its decision to allow the Oklahoma Union to abandon St. Louis avenue it is probable the property owners will ask that the width of pavement be changed from 36 to 24 feet.

## DEBS HAS PLAN TO TOUR WORLD AS PEACE ENVOY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

last war, announced today that he will devote his future activities to fighting war in other countries of the world.

"It is my plan later to tour the world," he said. "I have invitations from several countries and I hope to visit every country. Fighting war and getting women, men and children to view that they never again will support murder in the form of war."

Anxious to Visit Russia. The socialist leader added that "one of his great desires" was to visit Russia.

"I understand that an official invitation from the soviet government awaits me," he said. "I should like greatly to accept it and hope to. I should love to see those men over there. In my opinion, they are great heroes. The Russian revolution was the greatest event in the history of the world."

Asked about his political plans, he said he would be a candidate for president of the United States, "if the workers demand it."

"But I hope I will not have to be," he said with a smile. "I have been a candidate five times and I think that's enough, but I am at the service of the workers and will obey their demands."

Why Be a Citizen? "But you are no longer a citizen. What if your citizenship rights are not restored by the next presidential campaign?" he was asked. "A little thing like that wouldn't keep me from running," he answered. He now calls himself a "citizen of the world."

"Wouldn't it be great if a citizen of the world was elected president of the United States?" he asked. The present argument conference, he declared was "forced by conditions."

tion. "It was inescapable," he said. "Conditions forced the capitalists, masters of the world, to call the conference. It is significant only as a phenomenon, as a recognition of the cost of war. Its program will do no more than save some of the capitalists."

"There will be war in some form and war will progressively grow more and more destructive until a competitive world is transformed into a co-operative world."

"Every war for trade eventually will become a war for blood."

Events are unmasking the rulers of the world. They are beginning to realize that war is sending them to hell and wrecking the world."

The socialist leader declared he believed President Harding "was sincerely against war."

"I am perfectly satisfied that he sincerely desires to end war but he is a representative of the capitalist system and it is the capitalist system that makes war," Debs said.

BERLIN, Dec. 27.—By pardoning Eugene V. Debs, President Harding has righted a wrong committed by American class justice, said the independent socialist organ, Freiheit today.

"We greet with joy and satisfaction the return of this courageous fighter—this noble pioneer of socialism—back in the ranks of international workers."

## FORM A NEW CABINET

Liang Shih Yi to be Premier of China, So Washington Advised From Peking by Schurman. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The state department was officially advised today by Minister Schurman at Peking that the new Chinese cabinet under the premiership of Liang Shih Yi has taken office. The new cabinet is composed of the following:

Foreign Affairs—W. W. Yen. Finance—Chang Hu. War—Pan Kwei Ching. Navy—Li Ting Kin. Commerce—Yeh Khung Cho. Justice—Wang Chung Hui. Communication—Chi Yao Shan. Interior—Kao Ling Wei. Education—Huang Yen Pei.

Bear Meat for Sinn Fein Feast. NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Feted by Irish-Americans, Harry Boland, former secretary to Eamon de Valera, and a delegation of leaders in the Irish republican movement mailed this afternoon on the Pan Handle State for Ireland to be in Dublin when the final vote is taken by the dial circann on ratification of the Irish treaty. Boland took some bear meat back, saying he would feast his compatriots.

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